

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing polymer or elastomer material, comprising:

adding additive to the polymer or elastomer material; and

subjecting the additive to a desired chemical reaction;

wherein:

_____infrared radiation is introduced into the polymer or elastomer material, the radiation having a wavelength that optimally penetrates the polymer or elastomer material, but absorbs in the additive to produce the desired chemical reaction therein; and

_____the wavelength of the infrared radiation is chosen on the basis of the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material and the additive, so that the wavelength corresponds optimally to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the additive and as poorly as possible to the characteristic oscillation frequencies of the polymer or elastomer material.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the additive is an organic peroxide.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the additive is a chemical foaming agent.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the wavelength of the infrared radiation is produced by means of the temperature of the infrared source.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the infrared radiation is chosen by removing wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material are removed from the infrared radiation by means of a filter.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

9-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the infrared radiation is chosen by removing wavelengths which absorb in the polymer or elastomer material.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein infrared radiation is led to the polymer material in connection with a crosslinking process for an insulating or coating layer carried out in the manufacture of cables.